

REVIVE THE SPIRIT OF 1934!

## THE INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZER

Official Organ of Motor Transport and Allied Workers Industrial Union Local 544-CIO

MINNEAPOLIS OFFICE, 1228 SECOND STREET NORTH

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., THURSDAY, JULY 17, 1941

MINNESOTA  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETYStand at a  
one  
The right  
is done!  
Relieve and  
dare and do!As from  
this hour  
The World  
must follow  
you

VOL. 1, NO. 1

## Who is Blocking Drivers' Right to Elections?

On the  
National  
Picket Line

Marvel Schell

The United Mine Workers Union and its negotiating committee, headed by John L. Lewis, is in line for congratulations on the signing of the southern bituminous coal contract. When they come any more bull-dogged and tenuous than John Lewis, we'd like to meet them. And we mean like.

For five long and stormy months, Lewis and his committee have said "no" to every proposal which did not include an additional 40c a day for the southern miners. On July 7 the Southern operators capitulated, on the very eve of another coal strike. The new contract runs for two years, all terms retroactive to April 1, and provides \$7.00 a day for miners, vacations, seniority, and the elimination of the old "reject" clause which allowed the mine owners to deduct for faulty coal from the miners' pay envelopes.

For the first time in the history of the industry, workers in the southern fields are receiving wages equal to those paid their Northern brothers. This in itself is one of the biggest forward steps taken by labor in a long time. The South has always been notorious for its wage differentials, not only in mining but in all industries. It follows logically now that other unions in that area will step up their demands for the elimination of this geographical disparity.

The CIO, as a driving force for progress, hit the headlines twice this week with Washington date lines. Last week we reported on the CIO Legislative Conference, in which resolutions were passed severely scoring the Administration plans for stiff anti-labor legislation. Committees were set up at the conference to confer with the President, Vice President Wallace, Speaker Rayburn, House Minority Leader McCormack, and the majority and minority leaders in the senate.

The New York Times reported on July 8, that after CIO President Murray had spent some time with President Roosevelt, the newspaper reporters found the "atmosphere in Capitol Hill considerably changed." And on July 9, the Times headlines a story thus: "President Frowns on Forced Labor Peace. . . . Executive Said to Have Told House Leaders He Would Bar Troops Use. . . ." The story goes on to tell of how President Murray of the CIO met with the president alone, how committees appointed at the CIO conference met with Wallace, Rayburn and McCormack, and of how, as a result of these meetings, the atmosphere had been altered.

At any rate the two vicious pieces of anti-labor legislation were voted down in the House, and the bill which encompassed them sent on to the Senate with only one paragraph of its original content still intact. That part of the bill which is left provides that the term of service for draftsmen may be extended to any limit the president sees fit, that new men may be inducted into the army in any number Roosevelt wants, that the army may be used in any part of the world, and that

(Continued on page 4)

## CIO Leads Fight That Hurls Back Anti-Labor Bills

**CIO Mobilization in Nation's Capitol Lets House Members Feel Weight of Organized Labor—Union-Smashing Bills Resoundingly Defeated—Poll-Tax Congressmen Shriek with Horror at Power of Labor Lobby—John L. Lewis Lashes Roosevelt and Hillman for Strike-Breaking Activities—CIO Again Demands Increased WPA Appropriations, No Tax Increases on Workers—Needed: A National Labor Party**

If today organized labor in America is not faced with a law outlawing strikes, a law that would subject pickets to prison sentences of five years plus large fines, the workers can largely thank the CIO. The CIO successfully led the struggle against the Connally-May Bill, the Vinson Bill and the Ball Bill, all of which were resoundingly defeated last week in Congress.

With the pressure of the CIO upon the politicians in Congress at a peak, the fascist-like May Bill was whittled down to one paragraph deferring to the draft all men over 28. The original bill called for severe criminal penalties for union pickets who tried to prevent strike-breakers from entering struck plants; provided for government seizure of plants struck through "subversive influences or otherwise" and government protection for strike-breakers, a la Roosevelt; and denied wages to workers who lost their jobs through government seizure.

**CIO Leads Fight**  
Though the AFL and the railroad brotherhoods made perfunctory protests against the union-crushing legislation, it was the Congress of Industrial Organizations that organized and conducted the fight that killed off the plots of the labor-hating Congressmen. July 7th a meeting of representatives of all national affiliates and state councils of the CIO was held in Washington, at the call of President Phillip Murray. The CIO spokesmen went to work with a will, as is evident from the news stories from Washington and the outraged whines from the legislative impostors of the poll tax states.

The effective work of the CIO can best be described by one of its enemies, "Poll Tax" Smith, representative from Virginia. "Why do these (CIO) 'goon squads' call on you gentlemen in squads of three?" Smith shrieked to his House colleagues. "It is a little part of the technique of intimidation. One of them of course could have told us just as much about this case as three. But, no,

## 544-CIO Drivers Attend Your Section Meetings

Attention of all Local 544-CIO members is called to the need of attending your union section meetings, in order to hear and discuss the reports, and keep up with developments in the successful fight being waged to defend our union.

Below is a list of the meetings scheduled for the remainder of this month:

**Stewards**  
Friday, July 18th  
**Furniture, Coal, Paper and Printing**  
Monday, July 21st  
**Building Material**  
Tuesday, July 22nd  
**Transfer, Warehouse and Wholesale Drug**  
Thursday, July 24th  
**Cold Storage and Produce**  
Friday, July 25th  
**Seniority Committee**  
Each Tuesday, 7 p. m.  
**Grievance Committee**  
Each Tuesday and Friday, 7 p. m.

## CIO Auto Workers Win \$125,000,000 Yearly Wage Raise

The CIO United Auto Workers Union has recently won wage years totaling more than \$125,000,000 for its members, the N. Y. Times reported last Sunday.

About 200,000 workers at General Motors have won a 10c hourly wage raise, adding close to \$50,000,000 to the annual payroll. The union has won an 8c hourly increase at Chrysler, plus annual bonuses of \$45, the aggregate totaling about \$15,000,000 yearly.

The Ford contract will bring wage adjustments totaling about \$43,000,000, to close to 120,000 Ford workers. Hudson Motor Car company added an estimated \$1,000,000 yearly to its payroll with an 8c hourly boost and a similar increase was won at Packard, supplemented with a \$40 annual bonus. Studebaker employees won an 8c increase last month.

## Local 544-CIO Issues Its New Weekly Paper

The reader will note on the masthead of this issue the new name of the weekly paper published by Local 544-CIO—the INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZER.

In the spring of 1934, old Local 574 began issuance of its first paper, the Organizer; during that summer the Organizer appeared as a daily strike bulletin. In the spring of 1935 the paper was re-titled as the Northwest Organizer. When the union returned to Tobin's International Teamsters, Local 544 freely turned over to the Teamsters Joint Council the Northwest Organizer and the second-class mailing permit.

Up to the issue of June 12, 1941, the Northwest Organizer was published as the official organ of the Teamsters Council. At present-time that week, Teamsters Council officials tried to block the issuance of the paper. They finally agreed to sell the paper back to its original possessor, Local 544, with the provision they might repurchase it within thirty days. The next five issues of the

Northwest Organizer — June 12, 19, 26, July 3 and 10—appeared as the official organ of the Motor Transport and Allied Workers Union Local 544-CIO.

After a lot of legal hocus-pocus, during which the Teamsters Joint Council disavowed the authority of its executive board in selling the Northwest Organizer to Local 544, Tobin's agents finally repurchased the paper. This was their legal right. Morally, they stole the paper from the union that founded, published and edited the Northwest Organizer. Our readers will have nothing but contempt for this added evidence of union sabotage on the part of Tobin and his agents.

At any rate, Tobin will be balked from reaping any advantage from his dog-in-the-manger actions.

With no interruption, Local 544-CIO this week initiates the publication of the INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZER. The new name is much more appropriate and fitting to describe the industrial unionism which Local 544 has always sponsored and fought for. The INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZER will be edited and staffed by the same unionists who have been responsible these many years for the Northwest Organizer. In all respects the INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZER will carry on the militant labor traditions of its honorable predecessor.

Unionists and friends of labor may take advantage of the special eight months' subscription offer to the new INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZER by mailing \$1 and their name and address to 1228 Second Street North, Minneapolis, Minn.

## Federal Indictments Won't Stop CIO, 544 Fight for Unionism

**National CIO Officials Notify Frank Barnhart Will Furnish Bail For All Victims—CIO Will Intensify Campaign to Organize Motor Transport and Allied Workers Here—544-CIO Statement Lashes Tobin for Convinced To Smear CIO**

The federal indictments handed down Tuesday by a federal grand jury in St. Paul against almost a score of 544-CIO officers and active members will not deter either the union or the CIO from continuing its campaign to organize the motor transport and allied workers in Minneapolis and the nation.

The indictments, representing the trump card played by Dan Tobin and his political cronies in the national administration against 544 and the CIO, are based upon the ancient weapon of all tyrants, the charge of "conspiring to overthrow the government."

If Tobin and his war-crazed allies thought they could thus stop the forward march of the CIO in its campaign to organize the motor transport and allied workers, they quickly received a rude shock.

Mr. Frank Barnhart, regional director of the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee and personal representative of John L. Lewis, announced Tuesday evening after a phone conference with national CIO officials that "The national CIO has already set in motion the necessary machinery to insure that adequate bonds will be forthcoming to gain the speedy release of the persecuted unionists."

**Will Go Forward**  
"The national CIO will not be deterred by the indictments," Mr. Barnhart said, "but will continue to carry forward with all the resources at its command the campaign to organize the motor transport and allied workers in Minneapolis and the nation."

It is anticipated that all indicted unionists will give themselves up this week, and will be released immediately on bail, which has been set at \$5,000 each. Arraignment will be held later, with a trial being tentatively scheduled for next October. The work of Local 544-CIO will continue without interruption, towards the goal of establishing the victory of democratic industrial unionism amid the motor transport and allied workers.

The following press statement was issued Tuesday eve by the executive board of Local 544-CIO: "The indictments issued today by a federal grand jury against many of the active members and officers of Local 544-CIO are carefully timed with the aim of seeking to disrupt the campaign of the CIO to win the right of democratic industry-wide elections to determine the union bargaining agent."

Mr. Frank Barnhart, regional director of the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee to which Local 544-CIO is affiliated, announced this evening after a telephone conference with national CIO officials, that "The national CIO has already set in motion the necessary machinery to insure that adequate bonds will be forthcoming to gain the speedy release of the persecuted unionists."

"The national CIO will not be deterred by the indictments," Mr. Barnhart said, "but will continue to carry forward with all the resources at its command the campaign to organize the motor transport and allied workers in Minneapolis and the nation."

These indictments represent a new stage in Daniel Tobin's campaign, waged in connivance with government officials, to smear the CIO, with the aim of terrorizing the workers into accepting his reactionary dictatorship and his antiquated craft-union set-up.

On June 28th Frank Barnhart

**Hearings Before Blair Pile Up Evidence to Prove that 544-CIO Has the Men, That the Men Want Elections—Drivers Come Forward from All Sections to Testify for CIO, Relate AFL Violence and Coercion—AFL Paper Mum on Hearings: What Can They Say?—Bosses Warned by 544-CIO That It Represents Majority**

On Wednesday the third week of hearings, on the demand of Local 544-CIO for free and democratic elections throughout the motor transport industry, got under way before state labor conciliator Alfred Blair.

At every hearing to date, without exception, Local 544-CIO, aided by rank-and-file drivers form the industry, has established its contention that it represents the majority of the men, and that the men want elections. The union has been able to enter as evidence CIO pledge cards signed by the majority of the drivers, and CIO petitions for elections, signed by the majority of the drivers. Union members have testified that they witnessed the signatures.

Both the national and state labor laws specifically provide that workers are free to choose their own union bargaining agent.

**THEN WHO IS HOLDING UP THE ELECTIONS?**

Every member of 544-CIO wants an answer to that question, demands an answer.

**Furniture Hearing All CIO**  
The Blair hearing on the furniture industry last Thursday was a replica of the earlier hearings. From company after company, drivers came forward to testify to the overwhelming CIO sentiment among the men. Louis Chiodo, Cardozo driver, testified he witnessed all nine employees sign the CIO petition designating 544 as the bargaining agent of their choice, and that no CIO representatives were present to influence the men.

Chiodo testified that on two occasions AFL "organizers" came to George Sjoselius, Blair's aide, in quite a number, "at one time numbering 30 or 40, to insist that the men sign AFL cards."

Edward Krom, from Minneapolis House Furnishings, identified the 544-CIO pledge cards signed in his sight. Krom emphasized that the cards were "signed freely by the men." He then told how a dozen of AFL agents, headed by Gene Williams and George O'Brien, came to the company, asked for the boss, and proceeded to put AFL buttons on the men. "The men objected," said Krom. "The men are in doubt as to what union they belong to."

Wally Faybrite testified as to how one boss came out and waited for employee that "You're in the AFL, you don't have to sign a CIO card." Emil Hanson, 544-CIO organizer, identified various CIO pledge cards signed.

When the time came to summarize the arguments, the AFL attorney, I. E. Goldberg, could no longer deny that the CIO had the

## Ten Reasons Why You Should Vote for Local 544-CIO

1. Local 544-CIO stands for higher wages to meet the rising cost of living. Tobin stands for "sacrifices" on the part of labor, but not on the part of the profiteers.
2. Local 544-CIO furnished the leadership that has raised the wages, shortened the hours and won job security for the drivers and warehousemen of this city.
3. Local 544-CIO stands for honest, democratic and militant unionism. Tobin stands for dictatorship, thuggery and horse-and-buggy craft unionism.
4. Local 544-CIO elects its officers in free and democratic elections by secret ballot. Tobin's receiver appoints officers for the AFL.
5. Local 544-CIO has the backing of the great progressive CIO industrial union movement, the dominant movement in America today.
6. Local 544-CIO has always insisted that the employers live up to the union agreements.
7. Local 544-CIO protects its members on the job, and settles their grievances.
8. Local 544-CIO fights all finks. Tobin imitates them.
9. Local 544-CIO symbolizes the future of American unionism. Tobin and the AFL represent the dead and dying past.
10. Local 544-CIO is the union that Made Minneapolis a Union Town and means to Keep It That Way!

With each day CIO sentiment  
(Continued on page 3)

We Made Minneapolis a Union Town - - - Let's KEEP IT That Way

ACC. MAR 28 1944 &amp; PUB.



## To Local 544-CIO

# More Pledges of Support From Nation's CIO Unions

### FROM MISSOURI

Seven locals United Construction Workers this area extend congratulations to Local Union 544 on their action in affiliating with CIO. Our experience with racketeering and gangsterism of Federation here is similar to condition in Minneapolis. Federal grand jury here now investigating suggest obtaining affidavits for presentation Federal grand jury. We have discouraged violence this area. Head of Teamsters Union here fined \$5,000 last month for racketeering.

James T. Nash, Sec.-Treas.  
Missouri State Ind. Union Council.

### FROM SEATTLE

I have read with great interest and note the fine work you are doing to bring real trade unionism to the membership of Local 544 and eliminate the racketeering and graft.

As you know, Seattle and the state of Washington is the stronghold of the Teamsters organization under the guidance of Dave Beck and is ruled by the same iron hand and tactics employed by Mr. Tobin; the membership does not have any chance to discuss the affairs of their organization or promote policies and programs.

I feel that with the very fine start of Local 544 in Minneapolis and under your fine leadership that it will only be a matter of time before your organization spreads throughout the length and breadth of the United States.

Richard Francis, CIO Regional Director  
Seattle, Washington

### FROM INDIANA

You can rely upon the Indiana State Industrial Union Council to support your fight for the Motor Transport and Allied Workers of Minneapolis, Minnesota, with every means at our disposal. We will do whatever we can for you. Please do not hesitate to call on us at any time. If it is a matter of circularizing our locals for support, moral or financial, if it is a matter of putting the pressure of the Indiana CIO upon political groups, regardless of the issue, the Indiana State Industrial Union Council is for you and will support you.

We can't express forcibly enough our wholehearted respect for the membership and leadership of Local 544. You probably have the toughest fight on your hands that any local union has had for a great while, and we intend to contribute our part to help you win it.

Walter Frisbie, Secretary  
Indiana State Industrial Union Council

## Gassaway of Mine Workers Wishes Success to 544-CIO

The following wire of greetings has been received from O. E. Gassaway, member of the International board of the United Mine Workers from District 8:

PLEASE CONVEY TO THE MOTOR TRANSPORT WORKERS IN MINNEAPOLIS THE GREETINGS OF THE MEMBERSHIP OF DISTRICT 8, UNITED MINE WORKERS OF AMERICA AND THE HOPE OF THE ENTIRE MEMBERSHIP THAT LOCAL UNION NO. 544, UCWOC, WILL BE ABLE TO SUCCESSFULLY COMBAT THE REACTIONARY FORCES THAT ARE ATTEMPTING TO TERRORIZE THE PEOPLE OF MINNESOTA AND TO DISCOURAGE HONEST UNIONISM IN THAT CITY. WISHING THE GREATEST SUCCESS TO THE MEMBERSHIP OF LOCAL 544 IN THEIR ENDEAVOR TO BUILD AN HONEST AGGRESSIVE INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATION, I AM FRATERNALLY YOURS:  
O. E. GASSAWAY

## Why Railroad Workers Are Demanding Wage Increases

Chicago, Ill.—Negotiations on wage increases for the nation's railroad workers got under way last week when the employers' joint committee met separately with representatives of the "Big Five" train, engine and yard service unions, and with the fourteen standard railroad labor organizations. The unions hope that joint national negotiations involving the railroad owners and all 19 unions will be forthcoming.

In justification of their demand for substantial wage increases, the railroad workers' unions point out that during the depression the employees took a cut of \$600,000,000.

Edward Keating, editor of Labor, railway brotherhood weekly, points out that "Now the railroads are out of the 'slump' and on the high road of unparalleled prosperity."

**Profits Up 73%**  
"For the first three months of 1934 the gross revenue of Class I carriers went up from \$968,366,000 to \$1,152,107,000, an increase of 18.8 per cent. During the same period, the railroads' operating expenses rose only 8.2 per cent. As a consequence, the carriers' profits rose from \$115,904,000 to \$201,503,000, an increase of 73.9 per cent."

"This increase in profits is not a temporary spurt. Railroad traffic is increasing by leaps and bounds; carloadings are expected to cross the 1,000,000-a-week mark very soon. Undoubtedly railroad profits will be smashing all known records in the very near future."

"Are the railroad workers entitled to a part of those profits? Their wages are lower than those paid in any comparable industry. Furthermore, the efficiency of railroad workers has increased 43 per cent in the last four years. That's a staggering fact."

"The railroad workers shared the carriers' poverty at the bottom of the depression. Are they to be denied the privilege of sharing the carriers' prosperity when the depression makes way for good times?"

We Made Minneapolis a Union Town—Let's KEEP It That Way.

## CIO Spokesman Scores FDR For Aiding Anti-Labor Bills

"Support of the (Roosevelt) administration for the Vinson Bill has become increasingly apparent," John T. Jones, CIO legislative representative, told the CIO legislative conference held July 7th in Washington.

"Majority leaders have refused to express any opposition to the measure publicly . . . More direct response to the revised Vinson bill, however, is to be found in the fact that this revision was drawn with the advice and consultation in several conferences of Sidney Hillman, Harry Millis, chairman of the National Labor Relations Board, Dan Tracy, assistant secretary of Labor, and William H. Davis, chairman of the National Defense Mediation Board. Congressman Vinson, the sponsor of the bill, was referred by President Roosevelt to these administration representatives for the express purpose of revising his original bill. Indeed, the revised version was written by William Davis, chairman of the National Defense Mediation Board."

**Sign o' the Times**  
**70% of Mail Order Prices Up**

The new fall and winter catalog issued by Montgomery Ward & Co. reveals that prices on 70 per cent of the merchandise have been marked up over the previous catalog.

In addition, a special insert contains a "hedge" clause pointing out the possibility of higher prices. "It may be necessary on some items," the insert reads, "to refuse or delay your order, substitute materials or ask for a higher price."

Time-payment terms have been somewhat tightened. On tires and tubes, terms are now 25 per cent cash and the balance in three equal monthly payments, against the former twelve to eighteen months.

Price advances are conspicuous in textiles, sheets and sheeting, shoes, tires, refrigerators, etc.

The "Treasure Chest" sheet now costs \$1.14, against \$1; "Longwear" sheet, 92 against 77c; "Economy" sheet, 83c against 69c. Prices on women's shoes range from 4 to 20c a pair higher. Tire prices average as much as 10 per cent higher, with the biggest percentage gains in the lowest-price competitive casings. Electric refrigerator prices have risen from \$89.95 to \$101.50 on one model, from \$79.95 to \$91.50 on another.

case and eventually impose its decision . . .

"And thirdly, and perhaps most important, compulsory arbitration gives to a board too much power, entirely too much power. It gives to a board the right to regulate the lives of countless millions of people and it gives to a board the right to regulate hours of labor, conditions of employment and wages; and those three things mean life, life itself, to the workers of this nation . . ."

"Compulsory arbitration in the first instance would definitely frustrate every legitimate attempt to organize the unorganized. Because where organizational campaigns were undertaken, the strikes might ensue as a result of the employer's refusal to recognize our right to organize. Then the law would become immediately operative, through a writ of injunction imposing upon the individuals responsible for the conduct of the campaign of organizing the penalties set forth in the brilliant analysis of the Pace, Case amendments by our general counsel, Lee Pressman."

**Would Endanger Rights**  
"Secondly, where organizations do exist and where such organizations are recognized, and where the principle of collective bargaining has been definitely established, the promotion of true collective bargaining would also be definitely frustrated for this reason, that the employer at the beginning of the collective bargaining conference need only say 'No' to the workers' demands, always looking down to the end of that road where the arbitration board would hear the

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## CIO Mobilizes Strength to Defeat Anti-Labor Bills

(Continued from page 1)

can people know whether the duly elected representatives of the whole people are going to be coerced and intimidated into voting against the bill to prevent coercion and intimidation of other Americans."

Through the hysterical misrepresentation of the CIO's campaign by Smith there is revealed the very effective pressure technique used by the CIO.

**CIO "Visits" Politicians**  
Other Washington stories gave further details. President Philip Murray himself called on Roosevelt and demanded the latter call off his dogs in the House and Senate. Thomas Kennedy, secretary-treasurer of the United Mine Workers, led the CIO delegation that called on Speaker Rayburn and Representative McCormack, Democratic leader in the House. Kennedy reported the meeting was "very satisfactory."

Yet another CIO committee headed by John Jones, director of Labor's Non-Partisan League, talked with Vice President Henry A. Wallace. Numerous smaller CIO committees visited House members.

Following visits from the CIO, the whole tone of debate in the House changed remarkably. One Congressman, Baldwin of New York, even went so far as to suggest that perhaps "some of the labor unrest was attributable to the profits made by corporations having defense contracts"—not that Baldwin thought for one moment that there was "undue profiteering."

Baldwin named the General Motors Corporation as earning \$978 in profits for each worker; American Telephone & Telegraph, \$725 profit for each worker; U. S. Steel, \$393 each; duPont de Nemours, \$1,340 each; Standard Oil of New Jersey, \$1,620 each, etc.

John L. Lewis, United Miners chief, addressed the CIO conference July 7th which went on record to condemn the anti-labor bills and to hold accountable all congressmen who vote for them. Though Lewis spoke to a closed meeting, news of his talk leaked out to reporters.

Thus the N. Y. Times reported that "Mr. Lewis was reported to have been most vigorous in his denunciation of the President and Mr. Hillman (Sidney Hillman, head of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers and Roosevelt's labor lieutenant—Ed.) for utilizing the Army to break the UAW-CIO strike at the Inglewood, Calif., plant of North American Aviation, Inc., and to have expressed renewed dissatisfaction with the National Defense Mediation Board."

The same account said that

Lewis charged Hillman with responsibility for certification of the soft coal strike to the Mediation Board. Lewis pointed out to the CIO delegates that his Union had obtained a much better settlement with the Southern soft coal operators than that suggested by the Mediation Board.

One of Hillman's cronies, Jacob Potofsky, acting President of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers in Hillman's absence, sought to defend Roosevelt and Hillman. He claimed Hillman had something to do with the CIO victories over Ford and Bethlehem Steel, and charged Lewis with "playing politics."

**CIO Policy**  
Following the discussion, the CIO conference adopted the following declaration of policy:

"Organized labor, under the leadership of the CIO, has made tremendous strides forward in recent years. This onward march is being seriously threatened by repressive and anti-labor bills now pending in Congress. The proposed legislation is aimed at eliminating the right to strike, imposing compulsory arbitration and generally to frustrate organizing efforts among the unorganized workers."

"The delegates of all the national and international unions and organizing committees and State industrial union councils assembled in conference today hereby adopt the following program:

"All pending bills in Congress which curtail in any way the rights of labor, such as the May and Connally bills, the Vinson bill and the Ball bill are severely condemned. These representatives in Congress who support such legislation must understand that they are assuming a position inimical to organized labor and will be so understood."

The conference adopted further resolutions demanding increased WPA appropriations and opposing increased taxation upon the working people.

**Roosevelt Backs Water**  
In a belated attempt to conceal the fact that it is he, through his strike-breaking actions at the North American Aviation dispute and his behind-the-scenes manipulations, who has been largely responsible for the legislative campaign against the unions, President Roosevelt at the last moment, confronted with the mobilization of CIO power, backtracked and let it be known through the press that he opposed the labor-hating bills.

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## Costs of War Would Buy Us Lots of Beans

The 400,000 WPA workers who have been thrown off their jobs by Roosevelt and Congress can take considerable consolation in the fact that through their sacrifices they are furnishing part of the funds to enable Wall Street to have an army capable of protecting its interests in all parts of the world.

It took the yearly jobs of 118,300 WPA workers to buy one 35,000 ton battleship (\$70,000,000).  
Here are some other examples of the High Cost of War:  
37-millimeter anti-aircraft gun \$20,000  
105-millimeter howitzer \$25,000  
Medium tank—\$38,500  
Heavy bomber—\$350,000  
Barrage balloon—\$5,400  
8-inch railway gun—\$195,000  
16-inch shell and explosives \$1,505  
Torpedo—\$8,500.

Roosevelt's statement came only after the CIO delegation had made unmistakably plain its determination to defeat the dangerous legislation.

**Labor Needs Own Party**  
The successful CIO mobilization to defeat the Balls and the Mays furnished only a hint of the political power inherent in organized labor if it but only organize its forces independently of the two old boss parties.

As it is, the CIO can occasionally muster the strength to fight defensive actions of this nature against the boss-controlled Congress. Even so, it is fighting a losing battle, as witness the acceptance by Congress of Roosevelt's plea to slash WPA, and the reactionary tax bills now being debated.

If labor had a political party of its own, it could begin to take the offensive against the bosses, and start rolling up victories on labor's side of the ledger. On the order of the day for the 1942 and 1944 elections is the launching of a national independent labor party.

We Made Minneapolis a Union Town—Let's KEEP It That Way.

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and All Other Sandwiches  
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## Industrial Organizer

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Business Manager DANIEL BURKE Editor MILES B. DUNNE

### Why Tobin Fights the Elections

Over one month has passed since the regular June membership meeting of Local 544 voted overwhelmingly to disaffiliate from Tobin's union and join the CIO.

The record of both Local 544-CIO and of Tobin's forces since that date is crystal clear, for all workers to see and understand.

From the very first day, Local 544-CIO has demanded and fought for democratic industry-wide secret elections where the workers themselves can decide their choice of union bargaining agent.

From the very first day, Tobin and his agents have stubbornly and bitterly, through the most violent and unprincipled methods, resisted this democratic demand for secret elections.

#### WHY?

Local 544-CIO has demanded elections because this union knows the motor transport and allied workers of this city, has faith in them, and is confident that this union will win the elections hands down.

Tobin KNOWS that such a fate awaits him. Tobin KNOWS that in a show-down such as an election will constitute, that the drivers will have a chance to register freely their honest convictions about Tobin's vicious and brutal brand of bureaucratic unionism. Tobin knows he faces defeat in the elections. And Tobin is looking beyond that. And what he sees frightens him half to death.

The elections will establish before all people the right of Local 544-CIO to represent the motor transport and allied workers of this city. This will not only be a triumph for Local 544 and the Minneapolis drivers. It will be a triumph for clean and modern industrial unionism, as represented by the CIO.

Even better than we, Tobin knows that his dictatorship over the organized drivers of America is crumbling in hundreds of cities and towns. A bureaucrat like Tobin cannot function in the union movement for 35 years without provoking the hatred of hundreds of thousands of honest workers devoted to democratic union principles.

Today, these drivers, all over the nation, have their eyes keenly set on Minneapolis. A new hope is springing up in their breasts. In every roadside "coffee-and" where the drivers relax and chin a bit, the big question is being anxiously debated: "Will 544 be able to beat old man Tobin?" Active members and officers of the Teamsters Union from New York to California are discussing this struggle and looking for ways to help 544 beat Tobin.

With the elections held and Local 544-CIO's triumph recorded, the drivers of this nation will surge towards the CIO with the irresistible power of a river that has overflowed its banks.

Tobin's whole imposing apparatus will unravel with terrifying speed. A few old men will be left in Indianapolis, with no one to represent. They will have their illusions and a fat union treasury—and nothing else.

When that day comes, as come it will, it will be a day for the workers of America to celebrate. It will be as important a day to the workingclass of people as the day the CIO was founded by the industrial unions.

Every act of Tobin's since June 9th shows that this dictator from Indianapolis is aware of the fate in store for him, that he is throwing caution to the winds, disregarding every principle of decent unionism, recklessly lashing out to preserve his power and privileges.

As in the unfolding of the classic tragedies of old Tobin is rushing to meet his fate, fighting with the only weapons he knows how to use, grasping at every straw. In this fight, Tobin, a life-long Democrat and member of the national committee of the Democratic Party, is not averse to allying himself with the Republican politicians in the Minneapolis courthouse and the state capitol. He is not averse to conniving with the employers, with the police, with the FBI, that American Gestapo. Any weapon and any person or organization, no matter how anti-labor, just so it will permit itself to be used in the fight against Local 544 and the CIO.

Tuesday Tobin played his trump card. Moving through his political friend, President Roosevelt, Tobin drew indictments for "revolutionary conspiracy" from the St. Paul federal grand jury, against the leadership of Local 544-CIO. Tobin resorts even to this hated weapon of oppression borrowed from Czarist Russia, to defeat the honest men and women of Minneapolis.

Will Tobin's trump card win for him? Calmly we answer: Union principles say no. The CIO says no. Every liberal in America concerned with civil liberties and workers' rights says no.

Tobin will fail. The Tobin brand of ineffective, boss-minded, corrupt and dictatorial craft unionism will fade from the American scene. In its place will arise a new unionism—honest, militant, industrial, powerful. A new day will dawn for the workers of this mighty nation.

### AFL Organizers Quit, Join Bosses

The Duluth Labor World reported last week that AFL organizer Meyer Lewis, in Minneapolis on a special assignment from William Green in connection with 544, has resigned to accept a position as manager of a West Coast cannery.

The same paper reports that Frank Fenton, director of organization for the AFL, has resigned to accept a position with a distillery company.

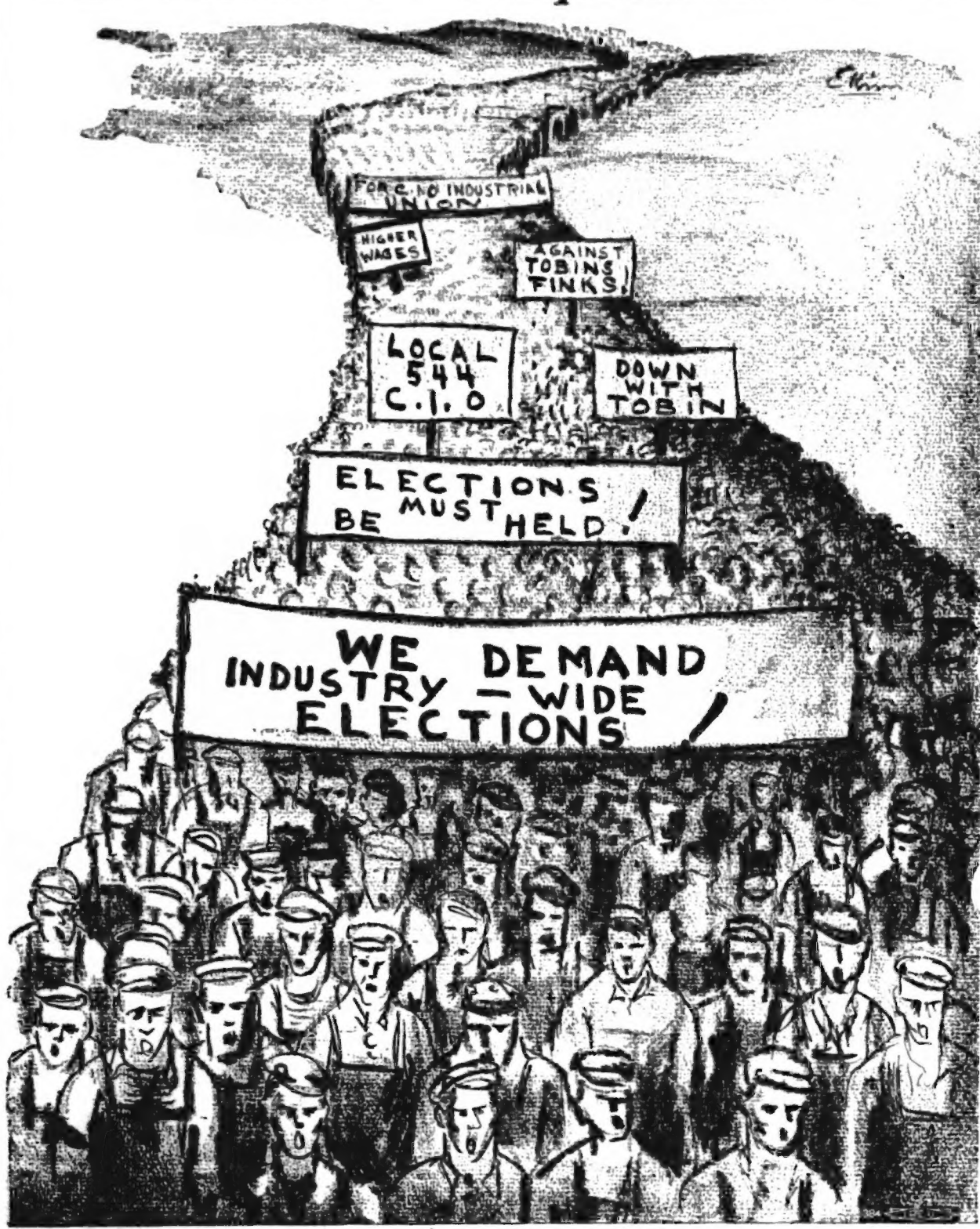
The Toledo AFL paper further reported last week that AFL Organizer Frank Dillon has sent his resignation to Green, to take the "labor relations post" with Seagram's distillery.

These three resignations of top AFL organizers, all within one week, disclose several significant facts about the American Federation of Labor.

The top organizers of the American Federation of Labor, those most closely identified with the reactionary craft-union war on industrial unionism, would hardly resign if they retained any faith in the future of the AFL or of the kind of unionism sponsored by the AFL. When a trio of AFL Big Shots jump overboard at this stage, it resembles all too closely a picture of rats leaving a leaky vessel.

Had the AFL executive council any intention of conducting any serious organization work, it is probable it

## The Drivers' Own Aquatennial Parade



would have gone to considerable lengths to prevent its organizing staff from being disrupted, as it must be by the resignation of Lewis, Fenton and Dillon.

What is likely is that the executive council has spread the fact that it means to roll over and play dead in the face of the war crisis confronting the country. So far as the AFL top leadership is concerned, it doesn't want workers "stirring up trouble" by organizing and demanding wage increases to meet the war prices.

That leading AFL organizers should find it an easy matter to step into fat jobs with the employers should surprise no participant in the labor movement. The AFL top leadership has always been a good deal closer to the bosses than it has to the workers. Each of the three, through his activities in crushing union militancy, preventing union organization and jamming lousy agreements down the throats of the workers, has no doubt earned many times over his right to a juicy job with the bosses.

One of the great aims of every honest unionist concerned with the future and effectiveness of the labor movement must be to help rid the movement of the type of labor leader who would even consider deserting the workers' cause to join the enemy camp. There have been all too many labor skates who look upon the union movement only as a stepping stone to cushy jobs with the employers or to political advancement. The sooner the Fentons and Dillons leave the movement—whether by resignation or by being booted out—the better it will be for organized labor.

### Raw Deal Reaches the Salad Course

In the middle of June Raw Deal Neal, Mr. Tobin's dictator-receiver, came to Minneapolis and sat himself down to the Teamsters Joint Council table for dinner. Despite increasing alarm on the part of the host, Raw Deal continues to sup, to gnaw, to wipe his greasy fingers on the best table linen, and to bellow for more food.

He has gone through the meat course and the fish course. He has swallowed 544 and 359. With a flatulent sigh, he has now arrived at the salad course—the Ice Drivers Union.

Last Friday he pulled the salad before him and began to stuff. To be precise, he announced that Tobin had appointed him receiver of Local 221.

Naturally, elections had to be held. The lone ballot was cast—by Raw Deal Neal. Raw Deal voted for three independent truck owners, three day laborers and one of Tobin's imports as the seventh man. To be sure, the Teamsters International constitution forbids independent truck owners to sit as union officers. But what's a little constitution when Tobin and Neal have a job to do? To be sure, one of Neal's appointees hasn't attended a union meeting in 11 years, and is months' delinquent in dues. But what are union principles to Raw Deal, save grounds for expulsion from the IBT?

Raw Deal is still hungry. He's bellowing for the pastry dish.

P. S. We forgot to record a side dish Raw Deal disposed of. The Cab Drivers Union has a new chairman and secretary-treasurer. His name is Harold Seavey.

### The "Conspiracy" Indictment

One of the foulest legal weapons that the labor-haters possess is the "conspiracy" indictments, which they wield against unionists when no other weapon is available to attack them.

Latest victim of the "conspiracy" charge is Carl Keul, international representative of the Teamsters and a leader of the Des Moines union. On Tuesday Keul was sentenced to three years in prison on charges of "conspiring" to ruin the business of a Des Moines trucking firm. In previous issues the Northwest Organizer has exposed and denounced the fraudulent nature of this frame-up, brought by a vicious labor-hating boss against Keul and four other unionists. Now Judge Ladd has overruled the motion by union attorneys for a new trial, and has sentenced Keul.

Does the fact that the head of Keul's International has connived with the FBI and the Department of Justice and President Roosevelt, to cook up a "conspiracy" indictment against Local 544-CIO, change our opinion about the Keul case?

#### NOT ON YOUR LIFE.

Carl Keul is the victim of a rotten frame-up, the

## Thoughts While Reading The Minnesota Teamster

From the shrill noise Casey's Minnesota Teamster makes, a fellow would get the idea that the property of Local 544 belonged to Daniel J. Tobin. However, 544's board has the crazy notion that 544's property belongs to the membership that donated it, and that specifically instructed and authorized the officers to defend it, and that Tobin isn't entitled to a plug nickel. 544-CIO will continue to protect the union property from Tobin.

So Casey dares to bring up the organizational expenses credited to Farrell Dobbs. Now that's dangerous—for the Caseys. Those expenses were incurred by Dobbs in furthering the organization of over-road drivers. Local 544, exactly like many other locals in the 11-state area, put up the money for this work because they were determined to bring the benefits of unionism to the over-road men. It was these local unions who carried the ball in the over-road campaign. Dan Tobin sat on his fat treasury in Indianapolis, and didn't even deign to give official recognition to the Union Area Committee until the job was done and the first contract signed.

And Casey wants to bring up the loans 544 made to various stewards. Fair enough, Casey. The stewards who owe 544 money are found in the ranks of the Quislings. You make a lot of noise, Casey, and tell a lot of lies, but you just don't know the score.

Casey says that the 544 CIO leadership would please Pegler. But Pegler has already publicly taken a position on this dispute—on the side of Tobin and Holy Joe and Raw Deal. Facts are stubborn things.

Casey feigns horror at the fact that 544 paid its leaders a salary of \$50 a week. That IS horrible to Holy Joe, who drags down many times that amount on Tobin's payroll.

"As soon as the trusteeship has ended, an election of new officers will be held," croaks Raw Deal. Sure, sure, sure. Only the records show that once Tobin gets his foul hooks on a union, union democracy is done for. Red O'Laughlin should be able to present interesting testimony on this point.

MOVIE DEPT.  
I still say the best film ever made was "The Informer."

Raw Deal's done it again. He's "elected" a new board, this time for the ghost of the Warehouse Union. A prediction: Before Raw Deal gets over his election jag, there's going to be an awful lot of unfamiliar faces at the Teamsters Joint Council meeting. But they'll represent precious few union workers.

Two issues of the Minnesota Teamster, the spiritual successor to the Twin City Reporter—and still no explanation as to why Tobin and his Quislings' oppose secret democratic elections among the drivers for a bargaining agent. Casey's got Tobin's bankroll, and the FBI cops and the Committee of 99—but 544-CIO has the membership. The state labor board hearings show that.

Casey's running-mate, Meyer Lewis, has thrown up the sponge, and decided to take his cut directly from the bosses. Smart man, Meyer. He remembers the beating we gave him in 1935—and he knows we are going to win this battle, too. Casey's papers didn't carry any news on Meyer's desertion. Speak up, Holy Joe. And make it good.

Old man Near, publisher of the old Twin City Reporter and Saturday Press, must turn over in his grave with envy at the Star Banged copper-headed sheet put out by Casey. Casey's got an angle Near never thought of—putting the union label on a sheet aimed at wrecking the spearhead of unionism.

Under the pounding from Tobin's imported agents, the Teamsters Council has moved so far off the union base already that it is issuing blank checks to the labor-hating Kline. Witness Davidson's "happy" pledge of support to Kline. Not a word about Kline's appointment of a company cop as chief of police.

The FBI has now admitted it planted men in Local 544 as agents provocateur (provocative agents). It would be extremely interesting today to know just what these undercover FBI agents are doing to disrupt the union and unionism in Minneapolis. Some day THAT story will come out, too. And Tobin's going to have a lot of explaining to do to the workmen of this nation.

The Minnesota Teamster now boasts of the "NEW ORDER" created here by General President Tobin. We are not joking, you'll find it in the editorial on page eight of Casey's rag.

By gosh, the Indianapolis

## On the National Picket Line

(Continued from page 1)

the men may be used in the arm of the forces against the bill will meet in the late still remains to be seen. But if Representative Sawyer wants to holler about "squads" from the CIO in attack against the lobbying of the anti-labor sections of the May Bill, I wonder who he is going to call the names of the drafters when they descend upon the Senate in position to this part of the bill?

The action of the CIO relative Conference in downing its wrath upon the administration has received the unanimous support of every CIO union in the country, including Curran's National Maritime Union.

Another victory for CIO in the legislative was the defeat of the Administration's Wire Tapping Bill. The vote which defeated the measure was narrow—154-146—proving how important the federal government has in this measure was to the successful slaying by the against unions and active union members. As it remains, it is still perfectly lawful for one of Hoover's boys to tap your wires and listen in on your telephone conversations. But evidence thus garnered is not permitted for admission in court. However, there is much use for information garnered in this manner.

FBI head J. Edgar Hoover admitted in a congressional last year that he "supplies information to employers on criminal subversive records of potential employees..." (our emphasis). Thus Hoover can keep posted as the union activities of their employees, supplying a wide black list for the bosses.

The Administration's interest in this bill is shown clearly in Roosevelt's statement at the time it was introduced that "he favored use of wire tapping in the interests of national defense." The bill itself was introduced by the Attorney General, was drafted by Alexander Holtzoff, legal advisor to FBI.

It was planned to slip the sure through congress with publicity or fanfare, in order organized labor would not time to gather its forces for position. But the CIO and Non-Partisan League saw the action soon enough to block passage by strong representative committees.

From Oakfield, N. Y., news that the management of United States Gypsum Company has given notice that "for any damage caused by employees" because, crime company, insufficient police protection has been provided plant during the two-week strike called by CIO United Mine Workers U. The strike was called after union negotiations committee been turned down flatly in demand for a wage increase for workers from 62½¢ to 66¢ hour.

Revive the Spirit of 1934  
dictator is even beginning TALK like Hitler.

## 544-CIO Statement Hits Indictments Of County Jury

Tobin's Agents Connive with Grand Jury for Indictments Entitled to Nothing from Union Save Contempt—Union Membership Had Instructed Officers to Conserve Union Property from Enemies—Tobin's Fink Suits as Foul as the Bosses' Fink Suit

The Hennepin County grand jury indictment of Miles Dunne and Kelly Postal for alleged "embezzlement" is "another trick of Tobin's designed to prejudice the public and try to sap the morale of the motor transport drivers and allied workers," the executive board of Local 544-CIO charged Tuesday in a public statement.

Pointing out that Tobin is neither legally nor morally entitled to a penny of the union's properties, the statement points out that the union membership had specifically instructed its leaders to protect the union property and prevent it falling into the hands of union enemies.

The June 9th regular membership meeting wherein over four thousand voted unanimously to leave the AFL and join the CIO also passed a motion instructing the officers to take all necessary steps to defend the union's property.

Full text of the 544-CIO board statement follows:  
Through the connivance of Tobin's agents, the Hennepin county grand jury has returned indictments against Miles Dunne and Kelly Postal for the alleged embezzlement of funds from Tobin's AFL union. The grand jury refused to hear the testimony of a representative of Local 544-CIO, which would have immediately exposed this latest move for what it is, another trick of Tobin's designed to prejudice the public and try to sap the morale of the motor transport drivers and allied workers.

When Local 544's regular membership meeting voted June 9th to withdraw from the AFL and accept a charter in the CIO, the union turned over to Tobin all he is entitled to: the AFL charter and the paid-up per capita tax. Incidentally, since 1936 Local 544 has paid Tobin over \$130,000 in per capita tax, almost enough to pay Tobin's salary during this period, without receiving back in return one cent. Tobin is entitled to nothing from Local 544. Legal decisions in cases similar to that existing in Minneapolis have established that the property of the union belongs to the membership. The membership of Local 544 has voted to join the CIO and

has shown in numerous ways that it means to stick to that decision.

Under Membership Instructions The union membership further instructed its leaders, and ordered and authorized them to take all necessary steps to conserve the union's property and prevent it falling into the hands of union enemies. The leaders of Local 544-CIO will account for every cent to the union membership, as they have always done.

"The \$2,500 check to 'cash' referred to in the indictment was drawn for this purpose. The \$1,000 cashier's check was made out a year ago during the first fink suit, for the same purpose, to assure that union funds could not be tied up in legal procedure.

This union has had experience with suits and legal actions of this nature. For over three years our union fought a similar court action initiated by five finks financed by the Minneapolis employers. The court, after examining the books and records of the union for six months, gave Local 544 a clean bill of health. Tobin will get no further with his new fink suits against this union than did the Associated Industries in the earlier suit.

### Women's Co-op Guild Picnic This Friday

The South Minneapolis Women's Co-op Guild will hold its annual picnic Friday noon, July 18th, at Powderhorn park, for members and their families and friends. Picnickers are asked to bring their own noon picnic lunch. Cups for coffee and other refreshments will be furnished. Prizes will be awarded winners of races and contests.

We Made Minneapolis a Union Town—Let's KEEP It That Way.  
Revive the Spirit of 1934

"conspiracy" indictment against the Des Moines unionists is a fake from top to bottom, and it is the duty and responsibility of every union man and woman to help defend the remaining indicted unionists and to denounce the "conspiracy" frame-up.

## UNION MEETING SCHEDULE Motor Transport and Allied Workers Industrial Union Local 544-CIO

July 1, 1941—Sausage, Petroleum	July 24, 1941—Transfer, Warehouse and Wholesale Drug
July 8, 1941—Greenhouse and Independent Truck Owners	July 25, 1941—Cold Storage Produce
July 7, 1941—Packaging Delivery and Department Store	July 28—Spring Water
July 8, 1941—Lumber	Seniority Committee meets Tuesday at 7 p. m.
July 9, 1941—Market and Wholesale Liquor	Grievance Committee meets Tuesday and Friday at 7 p. m.
July 11, 1941—Wholesale Grocery	All regular meetings start at 8 p. m. unless otherwise indicated.
July 14, 1941—General Membership	ICE DRIVERS
July 15, 1941—Text and Awning, Newsprint, 10 A. M. Wage and Means, I.T.O.	End Monday, July 14th, 1941. Laborers
July 18, 1941—Stewards	WAREHOUSEMEN
July 21, 1941—Furniture, Coal, Paper and Printing	General Membership, Second Team Stewards, 4th Monday
July 22, 1941—Building Material	Executive Board, Every Monday